NORTHIAM,

March 29th, 1922.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rye Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Twenty-Second Annual Report upon the health and sanitary condition of the Rye Rural District. The form of the Report has been altered in accordance with a circular from the Ministry of Health issued in December, 1921.

I.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the District...	37,257 acres
Population (1921)	6,830
Number of inhabited houses	1,820
Number of families or separate occupiers	1,857
Rateable value	£51,495
Assessable value	£38,813
Sum represented by a penny rate	£161 14s. 5d.

II.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1921.

		Total.	Male	Female.	
Births	Legitimate	111	56	55	Birthrate 17·1 per thousand.
	Illegitimate	6	2	4	

Deaths 75, equivalent to a death rate of not quite 11·1 per thousand.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth { From Sepsis 1. Other Causes 0.

Deaths of infants under one year of age per thousand births—Legitimate 68·2 Illegitimate 0. Total 68·2.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	1

There was no unusual or excessive mortality from any cause during the year.

III.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.			Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diptheria			1	0	0
Scarlet Fever			6	3	0
Enteric Fever including Paratyphoid			1	0	0
Erysipelas			2	0	0
Tuberculosis	Pulmonary	Male	0		
		Female	2	1	6
		Total	2		
	non-Pulmonary	Male	1		
		Female	0	0	0
		Total	1		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			0	0	0

IV.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

The chief feature of the year was the prolonged drought which caused the usual deficiency in the water supply of most parts of the Rural District to became accentuated, but though great inconvenience was caused there was no outbreak of disease which could be assigned to the serious deficiency of water.

V.—SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home—There are six District Nurses who visit the sick, and supervise the Home Nursing; they are all registered Midwives and attend to most of the Maternity cases; they are engaged and paid by Nursing Committees in the different villages, but in return for a grant from the County Council they undertake the antenatal care of expectant mothers, and supervise and report upon the infants up to the age of five years; they also meet the Schools Medical Officer and follow up the cases recommended by him for treatment.

There are no Clinics or Treatment Centres in the District.

Cases of Tuberculosis are treated in a separate ward in the Rye Union Infirmary, and suitable cases are sent to Sanatoria outside the District.

Venereal Diseases—Clinics for the free treatment of these diseases are now open at the East Sussex Hospital, Hastings.

The Conjoint Isolation Hospital in the Parish of Udimore receives cases of Infectious disease from the Urban and Rural Districts of Rye—there are two wards of six beds each.

One bed in the Hastings Smallpox Hospital situated in the Parish of Brede is reserved for the Urban and Rural Districts of Rye but some further provision for an epidemic of Smallpox should be made as the number of unvaccinated children grows larger year by year.

The Rye, Winchelsea and District Memorial Hospital was opened during the past year; it contains fifteen beds, and is well equipped with modern facilities for diagnosis and treatment; it is situated in the Parish of Playden.

The Hastings and East Sussex Hospital and the London Hospitals are also made use of by residents in the Rural District.

Ambulance facilities—There is one for infectious cases and one for non-infectious and accident cases. Both of these are in the Borough of Rye.

VI.—LABORATORY WORK.

Arrangements are in force for the examination of swabs from the throats of suspected cases of Cerebrospinal Fever, and Diphtheria Antitoxin and Tetanus Antitoxic serum are available in the District without any charge.

Bye-Laws relating to New Buildings, Tents, Vans and Sheds and Regulations with reference to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops were adopted in 1902.

VII.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The Inspector of Nuisances made 234 inspections.

Number of Notices served { Informal 26 / Statutory 12 } all complied with.

Temporary Accommodation.

The Huts, Tents, Sheds, etc., provided for immigrant Hop-pickers were inspected before and during occupation. The number of Huts specially built

for the purpose has increased by about seventy. The accommodation showed a distinct improvement upon previous years. The chief defect was a lack of sufficient places for cooking and for drying clothes and a deficiency of latrines.

There is no Public Abattoir in the District, the number of Slaughter-Houses is seven. They as well as the Bake-Houses have been inspected. A considerable quantity of Milk is exported and the Cowsheds and Dairies have been inspected and found to comply with the Bye-Laws. Disinfection of Houses and Clothing is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector upon the termination of infectious cases.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health (part time) and the Inspector of Nuisances (part time).

IX.—HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(*a*)	Total	15
(*b*)	As part of a municipal housing scheme	None

1.—Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection—(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	140
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	120
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	None
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	51

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	38

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—	
	(*a*) by owners	2
	(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	None
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	None

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	11

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:—

(*a*) by owners	11
(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	None

C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	None
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	None
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	None
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	None

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER WYNNE,

M.O.H., Rye Rural District.

The Librarian
British Medical Assn
The Strand
London